

prisoned for a year; and for the second offence shall suffer death without benefit of clergy.

CHAPTER VI

An act to prevent all persons from teaching slaves to read or write, the use of figures excepted.

Whereas the teaching of slaves to read and write, has a tendency to excite dissatisfaction in their minds, and to produce insurrection and rebellion, to the manifest injury of the citizens of this State: Therefore, Preamble.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That any free person, who shall hereafter teach, or attempt to teach, any slave within this State to read or write, the use of figures excepted, or shall give or sell to such slave or slaves any books or pamphlets, shall be liable to indictment in any court of record in this State having jurisdiction thereof; and upon conviction, shall, at the discretion of the court, if a white man or woman, be fined not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than two hundred dollars, or imprisoned; and if a free person of color, shall be fined, imprisoned, or whipped, at the discretion of the court, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, nor less than twenty lashes. Free persons prohibited
Penalty.

II. *Be it further enacted,* That if any slave shall hereafter teach, or attempt to teach, any other slave to read or write, the use of figures excepted, he or she may be carried before any justice of the peace, and on conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to receive thirty nine lashes on his or her bare back. Slaves prohibited.

III. *Be it further enacted,* That the judges of the Superior Courts and the justices of the County Courts shall give this act in charge to the grand jurors of their respective counties. C'ts to charge grand jury.

CHAPTER VII

An act to prohibit free persons of colour from peddling and hawking out of the limits of the county in which they respectively reside.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That from and after the passage of this act, it shall not be lawful for any free person or persons of colour to hawk or peddle any goods, wares or commodities whatsoever out of the limits of the county in which they reside, unless he or she has a license to do so, granted annually by the County Court of the county where he or she resides; which license shall be granted only when seven or more justices are present, and upon satisfactory evidence of the good character of the applicant; and for issuing such license the clerk shall be entitled to eighty cents. Free persons of color shall not peddle unless licensed by the county court.

II. *Be it further enacted,* That if any free person or persons of colour as aforesaid shall be guilty of a violation of this act, he, she or they shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty dollars for each and every such offence, to be recovered by warrant before any justice of the peace, in the name and to the use of the wardens of the poor of the county in which the offence may have been committed. Penalty.